

CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims of the Application as indicated below:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for procuring either at least one good, [[or]] at least one service, or combinations thereof at least one good and at least one service, for reconciling actual performance data with estimated data within a processor for a complex project ordered by a buyer and performed by a seller, the method comprising:

obtaining and storing in at least one medium that is electronically accessible to [[the]] a processor the estimated data from any a source relating to the complex project, wherein the estimated data comprises an initial estimate of the at least one good, at least one service, or combinations thereof required for performance of at least a portion of the complex project;

receiving and storing in at least one medium that is electronically accessible to the processor the actual performance data from the seller via a communication network, wherein the actual performance data comprises an indication of the at least one good, at least one service, or combinations thereof used for performance of the at least a portion of the complex project;

using electronic comparison circuitry the processor to compare the actual performance data to the estimated data to determine any a discrepancy between the actual performance data and the estimated data; and

sending an electronic notification of any such the discrepancy to at least one of the buyer and the seller; wherein notification of any such discrepancy is provided to the seller, whereby the seller can reconcile or account to the buyer for any such discrepancy

receiving a proposed reconciliation from at least one of the buyer or the seller; and

receiving approval or disapproval of the proposed reconciliation from the other of the buyer or the seller.

2. (Currently Amended) The method ~~for reconciling~~ as described in claim 1, wherein the actual performance data comprises an actual cost, in whole or in part, of ~~either~~ goods, [[or]] services, or ~~combinations thereof goods and services provided by the seller~~ in performance of the complex project.
3. (Currently Amended) The method ~~for reconciling~~ as described in claim 1, wherein the actual performance data comprises an actual accounting, in whole or in part, of ~~either~~ goods, [[or]] services, or ~~combinations thereof goods and services provided by the seller~~ in performance of the complex project.
4. (Currently Amended) The method ~~for reconciling~~ as described in claim 1, wherein the actual performance data comprises ~~at least one measurement of~~ at least one parameter defining at least one aspect of the complex project.

5-130. (Canceled).

131. (New) The method as described in claim 1, further comprising the step of using the processor to compare the discrepancy between the estimated data and the actual performance data with at least one rule stored in the at least one medium, wherein the discrepancy between the estimated data and the actual performance data falls within a tolerance of the at least one rule, and wherein the step of receiving approval or disapproval of proposed reconciliation comprises receiving automatic approval of the proposed reconciliation.

132. (New) The method as described in claim 1, further comprising the step of using the processor to compare the discrepancy between the estimated data and the actual performance data with at least one rule stored in the at least one medium, wherein the discrepancy between the estimated data and the actual performance data falls outside of a tolerance of the at least one rule, and wherein the step of receiving approval or disapproval of proposed reconciliation comprises receiving automatic disapproval of the proposed reconciliation and transmission of a notification to at least one of the buyer or the seller.

133. (New) The method as described in claim 1, wherein the step of receiving approval or disapproval of the proposed reconciliation comprises receiving an electronic approval of the discrepancy from the other of the buyer or the seller.

134. (New) The method as described in claim 1, wherein the step of receiving approval or disapproval of the proposed reconciliation comprises receiving an electronic disapproval of the discrepancy from the other of the buyer or the seller and a second proposed reconciliation from the other of the buyer or the seller, an electronic communication from the other of the buyer or the seller, or combinations thereof.

135. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the estimated data comprises a purchase order for said at least one good, said at least one service, or combinations thereof.

136. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the actual performance data comprises an invoice, a field ticket, or combinations thereof related to the indication of the at least one good, at least one service, or combinations thereof used for performance of the at least a portion of the complex project.

137. (New) A system for reconciling actual performance data with estimated data in procuring at least one good, at least one service, or combinations thereof, for a complex project ordered by a buyer and performed by a seller, the system comprising:

a processor in communication with a network and at least one data storage medium;

a first user device in communication with the processor via the network for communicating at least one parameter of the complex project to the processor;

a second user device in communication with the processor via the network for communicating actual performance data to the processor;

computer instructions in the at least one data storage medium for instructing the processor to:

receive the at least one parameter of the complex project from the first user device;

convert the at least one parameter of the complex project into estimated data, wherein the estimated data comprises an initial request for the at least one good, at least one service, or combinations thereof required for performance of at least a portion of the complex project;

store the estimated data in the at least one data storage medium;

receive actual performance data relating to the at least one parameter of the complex project from the second user device, wherein the actual performance data comprises an indication of the at least one good, at least one service, or combinations thereof used for performance of the at least a portion of the complex project;

store the actual performance data in the at least one data storage medium;

compare the actual performance data to the estimated data;

identify a discrepancy between the actual performance data and the estimated data;

transmit an electronic notification of the discrepancy to at least one of the first user device and the second user device;

receive a proposed reconciliation from at least one of the a first user device and the second user device; and

receive approval or disapproval of the proposed reconciliation from the other of the first user device and the second user device.

138. (New) The system of claim 137, further comprising at least one rule stored within the at least one data storage medium, wherein the at least one rule comprises a tolerance for the discrepancy between the identify a discrepancy between the actual performance data and the estimated data, and wherein the computer instructions further instruct the processor to compare the discrepancy between the estimated data and the actual performance data with at least one rule stored and to: transmit automatic approval of the proposed reconciliation to the first user

device, the second user device, or combinations thereof if the discrepancy falls within the tolerance of the at least one rule; or transmit automatic disapproval of the proposed reconciliation to the first user device, the second user device, or combinations thereof and transmit a notification to at least one of the first user device and the second user device if the discrepancy falls outside of the tolerance of the at least one rule.

139. (New) The system of claim 137, wherein the computer instructions further instruct the processor to receive an electronic approval of the discrepancy from the first user device, the second user device, or combinations thereof.

140. (New) The system of claim 137, wherein the computer instructions further instruct the processor to receive an electronic disapproval of the discrepancy, a second proposed reconciliation, an electronic communication, or combinations thereof, from the first user device, the second user device, or combinations thereof.

141. (New) A method for reconciling a complex transaction relating to oilfield surfaces between at least a first party and a second party, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a purchase order comprising an initial estimate of at least one oilfield good, at least one oilfield service, or combinations thereof, required for performance of at least a portion of the complex transaction;

storing the purchase order in a data storage medium in communication with a processor;

obtaining an invoice or field ticket comprising an indication of the at least one oilfield good, the at least one oilfield service, or combinations thereof actually used for performance of the at least a portion of the complex transaction;

storing the invoice or field ticket in the data storage medium;

using the processor to compare the invoice or filed ticket to the purchase order to determine a discrepancy therebetween;

transmitting an electronic notification of the discrepancy to at least one of the first party or the second party;

receiving a proposed reconciliation of the discrepancy from at least one of the first party or the second party; and

receiving approval or disapproval of the proposed reconciliation from the other of the first party or the second party.

142. (New) The method as described in claim 141, further comprising the step of using the processor to apply a rule stored in the data storage medium to the discrepancy, wherein the discrepancy falls within a tolerance of the rule, and wherein the step of receiving approval or disapproval of proposed reconciliation comprises receiving automatic approval of the proposed reconciliation.

142. (New) The method as described in claim 141, further comprising the step of using the processor to apply a rule stored in the data storage medium to the discrepancy, wherein the discrepancy falls outside of a tolerance of the rule, and wherein the step of receiving approval or disapproval of proposed reconciliation comprises receiving automatic disapproval of the proposed reconciliation and transmission of a notification to at least one of the first party or the second party.

143. (New) The method as described in claim 141, wherein the step of receiving approval or disapproval of the proposed reconciliation comprises receiving an electronic approval of the discrepancy from the other of the first party or the second party.

144. (New) The method as described in claim 141, wherein the step of receiving approval or disapproval of the proposed reconciliation comprises receiving an electronic disapproval of the discrepancy from the other of the first party or the second party and a second proposed reconciliation from the other of the first party or the second party, an electronic communication from the other of the first party or the second party, or combinations thereof.